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APPLICATION NO.	CATION NO. FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/881,361	06/13/2001		Joseph H. Hoffman	EKM-80279	8740
30764	7590 08/24/2004			EXAMINER	
SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP 333 SOUTH HOPE STREET				BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER	
48TH FLOOR			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/881,361

Art Unit: 3711

REPLY BRIEF

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1. The second reply brief dated 1 June 2004 has been noted and no reply is deemed necessary. The case has been forwarded to the Board of Appeals.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Blau whose telephone number is (703) 308-2712. The examiner is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If the examiner is unavailable you can contact his supervisor Greg Vidovich whose telephone number is (703) 308-1513. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858. (TC 3700 Official Fax 703-872-9306)

slb/ 20 August 2004

/ STEPHEN BLAU PRIMARY EXAMINER